

## **DMR Regional Offices**

Listed below is the name, address, and phone number of each Regional Office. Please feel free to call the office nearest your community if you would like to obtain more information or begin the application process for your child. [Ask for the Family Support Director.](#)

### ***Western***

1380 Main Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Springfield, MA 01103  
*Terry O'Hare*, Regional Director  
(413) 731-7742

### ***Central***

Glavin Regional Center  
214 Lake Street  
Shrewsbury, MA 01545  
*Diane Enochs*, Regional Director  
(508) 845-9111

### ***Northeast***

Hogan Regional Center  
Hathorne, MA 01937  
*Amanda Chalmers*, Regional Director  
(978) 774-5000

### ***Southeast***

68 North Main Street  
Carver, MA 02330  
*Richard O'Meara*, Regional Director  
(508) 866-5000

### ***Metro***

Fernald Developmental Center  
200 Trapelo Road  
Waltham, MA 02452  
*Gail Gillespie*, Regional Director  
(781) 894-3600, ext 501

### ***Central Office***

Department of Mental Retardation  
500 Harrison Avenue  
Boston, MA 02118  
Voice (617) 727-5608  
TTY (617) 624-7590

or visit our web site at:  
[www.dmr.state.ma.us](http://www.dmr.state.ma.us)

Department of Mental Retardation  
500 Harrison Avenue  
Boston, MA 02118

# ***DMR*** **Children's Services**

## **Massachusetts Department of Mental Retardation**

*Mitt Romney*  
Governor

*Kerry Healey*  
Lieutenant Governor

*Ronald Preston*  
Secretary, Executive Office of  
Health and Human Services

*Gerald J. Morrissey, Jr.,*  
Commissioner

## About the DMR

The Department of Mental Retardation (DMR) is a Massachusetts Human Service Agency whose mission is to provide services and supports to individuals with mental retardation and their families.

The DMR is dedicated to creating, in partnership with others, innovative and genuine opportunities for individuals with mental retardation to participate fully and meaningfully in, and contribute to, their communities as valued members.

## Guiding Principles

The DMR has developed Guiding Principles that reflect its commitment to promoting the rights of individuals; ensure the development and provision of high quality supports and services; and facilitate the inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of daily community life. The DMR also recognizes that families are an integral part of the service network for individuals and has, therefore, created a system which responds to people's needs by supporting them in their homes and community, provides support and assistance to families, and empowers families and individuals to exercise choice and decision-making.

## Family Support Goals

Families are experts regarding their strengths, competencies, capacities, and needs of their family members and are in the best position to know what will help them provide for a family member with a disability. Family support is based on respect for families and recognition of their expertise, their diversity, unique characteristics, and their cultural and spiritual values.

Family support, the cornerstone of services for children and their families, strives to achieve the goal of helping families stay together through:

- developing the family's natural capacity to meet the needs of family members;
- offering additional supports such as staff, resources, goods and services, and financial assistance;
- enhancing the capacity of communities to value and support people with disabilities

## Appropriateness for Supports

The DMR uses a broader definition of need for services for children than for adults. Development changes rapidly with maturity, education, family support, and environmental modifications during childhood. Some childhood conditions may improve, others may worsen. In addition, the primary supports for children are provided through educational entitlement, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) at the federal level and Chapter 766 at the state level. Supports from DMR are intended to complement those provided by IDEA or to provide services that are not available under educational laws.

In order to be appropriate for supports, your child must be a Massachusetts resident; be at risk of or have a substantial developmental delay; or have a diagnosis of a specific developmental disability (as defined by the Developmental Disabilities Act of 1994), and be approved to receive support services by DMR.

The question of eligibility is complex and you should contact one of the DMR offices near you for more detailed information and application materials.

## DMR Services

The following is a list of services available to children who are eligible to receive supports from DMR.

### Service Coordination

Each DMR Area Office has at least one worker who is responsible for overseeing the children's needs identified for that office. Children's Workers can be advocates for, and/or liaisons with other services for children including: SSI and Medicaid; health services; early intervention programs; educational services; day care and after school programs; transitional planning; assistance in interagency dispute resolution; crisis intervention; and links to other Human Service Agencies such as Departments of Public Health and Mental Health. The nature and frequency of the contact with the DMR Children's Worker is determined by you, the family, and the individual worker, based on need and the worker's availability.

## Family Support

When funding and resources allow, a variety of support options may be available to families. Examples of such services are: respite care, someone to care for your child, freeing you to run errands or enjoy some free time; a stipend which may allow you to purchase a YMCA membership for your child; community integration; consultation; recreation; summer camp; after school programs and information referral. A DMR Children's Worker can inform you of the availability of these service options, and if the resources exist. DMR family supports are designed to be flexible, according to the unique and changing needs of each family.

## Clinical Services

DMR offers a variety of clinical services either directly, though DMR staff, or through a contracted provider. These services may take place over a short concentrated period of time, or may occur for a longer, though less intensive duration. DMR services are available as long as the individual meets appropriateness criteria.

Some examples of clinical services include: individual, group or family counseling; behavioral consultation; behavior program implementation and monitoring; intensive family support; occupational, speech and physical therapies, and assistance in securing psychiatric consultation and follow up. These services are based on the availability of funding from DMR, medical insurance, or other sources. Access to family supports is available until the child is 18 years old, at which time, an assessment to determine adult eligibility is conducted. The DMR Children's Worker will help you make the linkages to the adult service system on behalf of your young adult.

## Parent to Parent Connections

The DMR Children's Worker can put you in touch with other parents who have had similar experiences and can share ideas and support, with your permission. They may also be able to provide you with advice as to how you and your child can receive all available assistance.